

DEFENSE FINANCE AND ACCOUNTING SERVICE ARLINGTON 1851 SOUTH BELL STREET ARLINGTON, VA 22240-5291

JUN 197 2005

DFAS-DOP

MEMORANDUM FOR DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY (FINANCIAL OPERATIONS)

ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE NAVY (FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND COMPTROLLER) OFFICE OF FINANCIAL OPERATIONS
DEPUTY ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE (FINANCE OPERATIONS)
DIRECTOR, ADMINISTRATION AND MANAGEMENT COMPTROLLERS, DEFENSE AGENCIES
RESOURCE MANAGERS, DOD FIELD ACTIVITIES
DIRECTOR FOR FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT DIRECTORATE, INSPECTOR GENERAL, DOD

SUBJECT: Administrative Claims for Annual Leave under <u>Butterbaugh v. Department of Justice</u>, 336 F.3d 1332 (Fed. Cir. 2003)

This memorandum is to explain the procedures for filing an administrative claim for annual leave with the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS), Defense Civilian Pay Offices This guidance is based in part on an April 13, 2005 memorandum from the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense, which describes options that an employee has in seeking settlement for charges of annual leave or leave without pay (LWOP) on either an intervening weekend or nonworkday for periods of active duty (posted to the Civilian Personnel Management System website at http://www.cpms.osd.mil/fas/pay/pdf/butterbaugh_v_doj.pdf) and, an October 13, 2004, memorandum from the Office of Personnel Management, providing their guidance for administrative leave claims (posted at http://www.opm.gov/oca/compmemo/2004/2004-19.asp).

Claimants must show proof that they were harmed by the improper charging of leave for Reserve duty on intervening weekends or nonworkdays by showing that annual leave or leave without pay (LWOP) was actually charged for a period of active duty military orders due to the improper charge to military leave on an intervening weekend or nonworkday. If a loss is proven restored annual leave or payment for this annual leave will be made. Procedures on how to show proof can be found at attachments 1 through 3.

Appropriated fund employees of the Department of Defense or other agencies that are or were payrolled by Defense Civilian Pay System (DCPS) who choose to seek restoration of annual leave (or former employees¹ who wish payment) for military leave charged for

¹ Former employees are those who have separated from government employment.

nonworkdays, may file an administrative claim with the DFAS under the following rules. Such claims are subject to the Barring Act, found at 31 U.S.C. §3702, which provides that claims against the United States must be received by the Government within 6 years after the claim accrues. Only leave amounts that accrued within the 6 years preceding the filing of the claim with the Government may be restored or paid for under these procedures. Restoration of leave or alternatively payment under an administrative claim filed under these procedures will be a final settlement of all claims, no matter when they accrued, that current or former employees may have against the Government arising from military leave charged for nonworkdays. Restored annual leave under this claim must be used by the employee by the end of the leave year beginning within 2 years after the date of restoration or the leave will be forfeited, in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 6304(d)(1)(a) and 5 CFR 630.306. A claimant may choose to request restoration of military leave rather than annual leave, if so, the same information must be provided with the claim and proof of harm must still be shown. If loss of leave is proven, military leave will be restored to the claimant. Any restored military leave is subject to the maximum carry over of 30 days. Any adjustment of military leave that would cause the claimant's military leave balance to exceed the limits set by law would be forfeited.

It should be noted that there was a change to the military leave law that became effective on December 21, 2000. This law stopped the practice of charging military leave for intervening weekends or nonworkdays. Agencies, and their supervisors and timekeepers were notified of this change and should have stopped charging military leave on those days. Further, the DCPS implemented some system edits to help prevent erroneous charging of military leave on an intervening weekend or a nonworkday. However, if an employee can prove and submits a claim with the required documentation for periods after 2000, an audit by the payroll offices would be appropriate.

All claims must be submitted to the DFAS payroll office(s) central post office box, where information is imaged and flowed to the appropriate payroll office for processing. The mailing address for DFAS (give name of payroll office) is, PO Box 33717, Pensacola, FL, 31508-3717.

Payroll offices will continue to process all claims and orders including administrative claims, orders and decisions of the Merit System Protection Board, Federal Courts and agency settlements for restored annual leave or adjustments to military leave. They will also continue to provide payroll information when properly requested by third parties (including Government agencies and employees).

Questions regarding this subject may be directed to Linda Greeley of my staff. She can be reached at (703) 607-5047.

Lydia Moschkin Director, Policy and

Requirements Management

Attachments: As stated

cc: Director, Military and Civilian Pay Services

National Security Agency (Attn: Laneita Kisamore)
Dept of Energy (Attn: Jerry Odegard)
Depart of Health & Human Services (Attn: Jim Martin)

Service Liaisons

PROCEDURES FOR FILING AN ADMINISTRATIVE CLAIM

Claimants must complete the claim format at attachment 2 and provide the information listed below. Claimants must show proof that they were harmed by the improper charging of military leave for Reserve duty on intervening weekends or nonworkdays. What does this mean to the claimant? Generally, each claimant must prove that annual leave or LWOP was charged for a period of active duty military orders due to the improper charge to military leave on an intervening weekend or nonworkday. How can that be proven? The claimant must submit a copy of the active duty military order(s) that first caused the erroneous charge to military leave and the follow-up active duty military order(s) that required the member to be charged annual or LWOP.

Appropriated fund employees of the Department of Defense or other agencies that are or were payrolled by the Defense Civilian Pay System (DCPS) who choose to seek restoration of annual leave (or former employees² who wish payment) for military leave charged for nonworkdays, may file an administrative claim with the Defense Finance and Accounting Service (DFAS) under the following rules. Such claims are subject to the Barring Act, found at 31 U.S.C. §3702, which provides that claims against the United States must be received by the Government within 6 years after the claim accrues. Only leave amounts that accrued within the 6 years preceding the filing of the claim with the Government may be restored or paid for under these procedures. Restoration of leave or alternatively payment under an administrative claim filed under these procedures will be a final settlement of all claims, no matter when they accrued, that current or former employees may have against the Government arising from military leave charged for nonworkdays. Restored annual leave under this claim must be used by the employee by the end of the leave year beginning within 2 years after the date of restoration or the leave will be forfeited, in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 6304(d)(1)(a) and 5 CFR 630.306.

Examples of the 6 year period for claims would be as follows:

Audit Period
Back to 1993
Back to 1994
Back to 1995
Back to 1996
Back to 1997
Back to 1998
Back to 1999

It should be noted that if a claimant requests restoration of military leave rather than annual leave the same information must be provided with the claim and proof of harm must still be shown. If loss of leave is proven, military leave will be restored to the claimant. Any restored military leave is subject to the maximum carry over of 30 days. Any adjustment of

Attachment 1

 $^{^{2}}$ Former employees are those who have separated from government employment.

military leave that would cause the claimants balance to exceed the limits set by law would be forfeited.

All claims must be submitted to the DFAS payroll office(s) central post office box, where information is imaged and flowed to the appropriate payroll office for processing. The mailing address for DFAS (give name of payroll office) is, PO Box 33717, Pensacola, FL, 31508-3717. To help employees determine their servicing payroll office, they need to look at their current or former Leave and Earnings Statement and locate the payroll office identification (ID) number (POIN). A listing (attachment 3) will translate that POIN to the payroll office name. Former and current employees must provide the following documentation, a completed claim format (attachment 2), indicating the specific dates of active duty (FROM/TO) during which annual leave or LWOP was charged for nonworkdays or intervening weekends. Attach a copy of the order to active duty and a copy of the certificate of attendance for each period of active duty claimed. Former employees (still employed in the Federal government) who were payrolled by DCPS and intend to file a claim with DFAS must include a mailing address for their current payroll office. This address is required so that the DCPS payroll office(s) will be able to send a corrected Record of Leave Data (SF 1150) with the restored annual leave balance for recredit to you by your current payroll office. Note payroll offices will enter the restored annual leave amount in the Restored column under the Summary of Annual and Sick Leave heading and the date of the restored annual leave in block 24 remarks.

Upon receipt of the completed claim package, the servicing payroll office will audit the leave records against the sets of orders provided. Any erroneous charges to annual leave or LWOP will be adjusted and an amount of restored annual leave will be credited, if applicable, to the claimant's account if the claimant is still an employee of the Federal government. Restored annual leave under this claim must be used by the employee by the end of the leave year beginning within 2 years after the date of restoration or the leave will be forfeited, in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 6304(d)(1)(a) and 5 CFR 630.306.

If the claimant has separated or retired, a payment will be made to the claimant to settle the erroneous charges to annual leave or LWOP using the agency's current appropriations. All former employees must provide a current mailing address so the payment can be made to them.

If the audit finds that intervening weekends or nonworkdays did not result in charges to annual or LWOP, the claimants (current or former) will have no entitlement to restored leave or payment and the claim will be sent back to the current or former employee stating that there was no harm found for the period(s) of the claim.

CLAIM FORMAT

Administrative Claims for Annual Leave under Butterbaugh v. Department of Justice, 336 F.3d 1332 (Fed. Cir. 2003)

Appropriated fund employees

NAME	SSN	DATE
CURRENT MAILING ADDRI	ESS (former emp	ployees only)
(Federal governm	ILING ADDRESS
DFAS PAYROLL OFFICE (SI	ecify Charleston	, Pensacola, or Denver)
MAIL TO: PO Box 33717, Per Identification (ID) Number (POIN) s	nsacola FL, 21 hown on your Le	508-3717 (See attachment 1 for translation of the Payroll Office ave and Earnings Statement to your servicing payroll office)
REQUIRED INFORMATION	FOR EACH	PERIOD OF ACTIVE DUTY ORDERS:
ACTIVE DUTY DATES	FROM:	TO:
ACTIVE DUTY DATES	FROM:	TO:
ACTIVE DUTY DATES	FROM:	TO:
CURRORENCE	ACTIMENT A	TION (ATTACH TO CLAIM) - Claimant's must show that

REQUIRED SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION (ATTACH TO CLAIM) - Claimant's must show that annual leave or LWOP was used in the performance of Reserve duties because the agency deducted military leave for nonworkdays or intervening weekends.

- A copy of my order to military active duty for a continuous period of active duty that includes a weekend or nonworkday.
- A copy of my certificate of attendance for each period of active duty listed above.
- A copy of my applicable civilian work schedule (if it was not a standard Monday through Friday) for the period(s) of active duty listed above, showing nonworkdays.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (OPTIONAL)

A copy of my leave and earnings statements that indicate charges to military leave which may include a weekend, nonworkday or a charge to leave without pay.

I understand and accept that filing this administrative claim means the following: All administrative claims against the Government must be received by the agency within 6 years after the claim accrues, under 31 U.S.C. §3702. Only leave amounts that accrued within the 6 years preceding the filing of the claim with the Government may be restored or paid for under these procedures. Restoration of leave or alternatively payment of an administrative claim filed under these procedures will be a final settlement of all claims, no matter when they accrued, that I may have against the Government arising from military leave charged for nonworkdays.

I further understand and accept that 1 day of restored annual leave will be given for each weekend day, nonworkday, or leave without pay (LWOP) charged during my continuous period of active duty. If the audit indicates no charges to annual leave or LWOP were made, then there is no entitlement to payment or restored annual leave. Current employee will receive restored annual leave for any erroneous changes of leave or LWOP; former employees will receive payment for erroneous changes of leave or LWOP. Any leave restored to my account must be used by the end of the leave year beginning within 2 years after the date of restoration or the leave will be forfeited, in accordance with 5 U.S.C. 6304(d)(1)(a) and 5 CFR 630.306.

SIGNATURE OF CLAIMANT	DATE SIGNED
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PAYROLL OFFICE IDENTIFICATION (ID) NUMBER (POIN)

97380600	Charleston Payroll Office
97380700	Charleston Payroll Office
97381000	Charleston Payroll Office
97381100	Charleston Payroll Office
97381400	Charleston Payroll Office
97381500	Charleston Payroll Office
97300800	Denver Payroll Office
97380100	Pensacola Payroll Office
97380500	Pensacola Payroll Office
97381200	Pensacola Payroll Office